

**From:** Lancaster, Geoff [mailto:GLancaster@SantaBarbaraCA.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2008 3:18 PM  
**To:** Namba, Valerie  
**Subject:** Pex E.I.R.

Hi Valerie. I am the plumbing specialist for the City of Santa Barbara and I was wondering about where we are on this issue. With the price of copper so high, stopping the use of P.E.X. piping for potable water distribution is almost impossible. A plumber told me today that materials costs alone are causing him to lose a lot of bids to plumbers who are using P.E.X. I feel it is a little unfair to put the inspectors in the position of being consumer affairs watchdogs on an issue that is out of control. It is very easy to purchase these parts at every plumbing shop in the area. It is impossible for us to stem this tide. If we harden our stance, then they work without permits; does this make any sense?

I would like to know when we will get resolution on this issue. As inspectors, we have just about given up trying to do the 'right thing' and following California Building Standards when this piping is available world wide.